

PLUMBING PERMIT REQUIREMENTS
Where work is done by the Owner instead of a Licensed Plumber

4/18/02

The *1991 Uniform Plumbing Code* requires that you get a permit before doing any work on a plumbing system. If you plan to do the work yourself instead of hiring a licensed plumber, follow the steps below. If you have any question's, call (425-452-4566) and leave a voice-mail message; a Plumbing Inspector will return your call. Our TTY number is 425-452-4636. The King County library has copies of the 1997 Uniform Plumbing Code.

NOTE NEW STANDARDS: (1) To improve water use efficiency and conservation, the state plumbing code now requires low-volume plumbing fixtures for all new construction and for all remodeling or repair that involves replacement of plumbing fixtures. Buyer Beware: Make sure your fixtures meet current code requirements. (2) If water pressure exceeds 80 psi, an approved water pressure regulator must be installed [see UPC 1007(b)].

PREPARE A DRAWING: Prepare a simple single-line drawing of the plumbing system you plan to install (see the sample sketch of a 3-fixture plumbing system on the back). On your drawing indicate the pipe sizing and the type of fittings for the waste & vent and the water supply piping (Waste piping per UPC Tables 4-1 and 4-2; Vent piping per Table 4-3; Water piping per Tables 10-1 & 10-2 and Appendix A).

No drawing is required for replacement-only projects.

OBTAIN THE PERMIT: Submit the drawing with your plumbing permit application. A plumbing inspector will review your application and will contact you if corrections or clarifications are needed. If you wish to set up an appointment to clarify requirements or discuss your plans, you can leave a message on our voice-mail system 24 hours a day. The inspector returns calls between 7-7:30 and 3-3:30, Monday through Friday.

Permit Processing will contact you when the permit is ready to issue.

TEST YOUR PLUMBING SYSTEM: After the plumbing has been installed (that includes both the waste & vent and the water piping), test the waste & vent system with a 5-pound air test or by filling it with water. Before testing, make sure all openings are plugged tightly; examine the piping carefully for any possible leaks. If you find leaks, make the necessary repairs.

To test the water system, pressurize the water piping with the water pressure that will exist in the system under normal operating conditions, or air test the system at a pressure of not less than 50 pounds per square inch. Air testing is prohibited on plastic water pipe.

ARRANGE FOR AN INSPECTION: There are three ways to arrange for an inspection: (1) Call the 24-hour inspection line at **(425-452-6875)**; OR (2) pick up an Inspection Request form in the Department of Planning and Community Development and FAX it in (425-452-7930); or (3) bring in the Inspection Request form. If you place your request before 4:00 p.m. on a working day, the inspection will be scheduled for the next day. If you need to arrange a specific time for your inspection, you **must** speak directly with the inspector. Call between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. on the morning of the inspection (this is in addition to placing your request). The Inspection Information handout contains current phone numbers.

If the inspector finds any problems in the installed system, those problems must be corrected and will require additional inspection(s) before final approval can be given.

IF YOU INSTALLED AN IRRIGATION SYSTEM, ARRANGE FOR A BACKFLOW PREVENTION

ASSEMBLY TEST: Pick up a Backflow Prevention Assembly Testing Report form. Attached to it is the information you need to arrange for your test, a list of firms you can call, and the people to call if you have questions. Arrange for a test from a certified tester and have him/her complete and sign the report form. Return the top copy of the form to Mike Batton in the Water Quality Division of the Bellevue Utility Department.

Note: There may be limitations on the number of fixtures you can add to an existing system.